

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A device for treating plantar fasciitis comprising:
a boot comprising a shell, a sole on bottom of said shell and a footplate on top of said shell;

at least one upright connected to said shell;

a cuff to secure said at least one upright to a lower portion of a leg;

at least one strap to secure said boot to said foot;

wherein said sole has a bottom shaped to allow a near normal walking gait; ~~and~~
wherein said footplate places said foot in an amount of dorsiflexion-; and
wherein said footplate is adjustable to place said foot in an increased amount of dorsiflexion without changing the angle between the sole and the at least one upright.
2. **(Original)** The device of claim 1 wherein there are two said at least one upright.
3. **(Original)** The device of claim 2 wherein said cuff is secured to said uprights by hook and eye closures.
4. **(Original)** The device of claim 2 further comprising at least one leg strap to further secure said calf cuff to said uprights.
5. **(Original)** The device of claim 1 wherein said footplate places said foot in 5° of dorsiflexion.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The device of claim 1 further comprising at least one wedge that can be placed on said footplate wherein the at least one wedge adjusts the footplate to increase said amount of dorsiflexion.

7. **(Original)** The device of claim 6 wherein each of said at least one wedge comprises an adhesive strip to secure said at least one wedge on said boot.

8. **(Original)** The device of claim 6 wherein each of said at least one wedge places said foot in an additional 5° of dorsiflexion.

9. **(Original)** The device of claim 1 wherein said at least one strap further comprises a foot strap and a heel strap.

10. **(Original)** The device of claim 9 further comprising pads attached to said at least one strap.

11. **(Original)** The device of claim 1 wherein said sole comprises a rear angle portion, a center portion, and a front angle portion.

12. **(Original)** The device of claim 11 wherein said portions of said sole are joined by arcuate areas.

13. **(Original)** The device of claim 1 wherein said cuff is made of breathable foam.

14. **(Original)** The device of claim 1 wherein said shell and said at least one upright are made of metal.

15. **(Original)** The device of claim 14 wherein said metal is aluminum alloy.
16. **(Original)** The device of claim 1 wherein said sole is made of microcellular polyurethane.
17. **(Cancelled)**

18. **(Currently Amended)** A device for treating plantar fasciitis comprising:
a boot comprising a shell, a sole on bottom of said shell and a footplate on top of said shell;
at least one upright connected to said shell;
a cuff to secure said at least one upright to a lower portion of a leg;
at least one strap to secure said boot to said foot;
at least one wedge that can be placed on said footplate to increase said amount of dorsiflexion;
wherein said footplate places said foot in an amount of dorsiflexion; ~~and~~
wherein said sole has a bottom shaped to allow a near normal walking gait.; and
wherein the at least one wedge increases the amount of dorsiflexion without changing the angle between the sole and the at least one upright.
19. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein there are two said at least one upright.
20. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein said cuff is secured to said at least one upright by hook and eye closures.
21. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 further comprising a number of leg straps to further secure said calf cuff to said at least one upright.
22. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein said footplate places said foot in 5° of dorsiflexion.

23. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein each of said at least one wedge places said foot in an additional 5° of dorsiflexion.

24. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein each said at least one wedge comprises an adhesive strip to secure said at least one wedge on said boot.

25. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein said at least one strap comprises a foot strap and a heel strap.

26. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein said calf cuff is made of breathable foam.

27. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein said shell and said at least one upright are aluminum alloy.

28. **(Original)** The device of claim 18 wherein said sole is made of microcellular polyurethane.

29. **(Currently Amended)** A device for treating plantar fasciitis comprising:
- a boot comprising a shell, a sole on bottom of said shell and a footplate on top of said shell;
 - two uprights connected to said shell;
 - ankle pads attached to each said two uprights.
 - a cuff to secure said two uprights to a lower portion of a leg;
 - at least one leg strap securing said cuff to said two uprights;
 - at least one wedge capable of placement on said footplate to increase said amount of dorsiflexion an additional 5°;
 - an adhesive strip on bottom of each said at least one wedge;
 - a foot strap and a heel strap attached to said shell;
 - pads on said straps;
 - wherein said footplate places said foot in 5° of dorsiflexion; ~~and~~
 - wherein said sole has a bottom shaped to allow a near normal walking gait; and
 - wherein the at least one wedge increases the amount of dorsiflexion without changing the angle between the sole and the two uprights.

30. **(Currently Amended)** A method of treating plantar fasciitis comprising:
- placing a foot into a boot, comprising a sole shaped to protect said foot while allowing a near normal walking gait, a footplate that places said foot in an amount of dorsiflexion with respect to a leg, and at least one upright;
- adjusting straps to secure said foot in said boot;
- locating a cuff around the leg and securing the cuff to the at least one upright;
- repeatedly adjusting said footplate after successive periods of time to increase dorsiflexion of said foot by a certain amount without changing the angle between the sole and the at least one upright, until a maximum amount of dorsiflexion is achieved.
31. **(Original)** The method of claim 30 wherein said certain amount of dorsiflexion is increased by adding a wedge onto said footplate.
32. **(Original)** The method of claim 30 wherein said maximum amount of dorsiflexion is 20°.
33. **(Original)** The method of claim 30 wherein said amount of dorsiflexion is 5°.
34. **(Original)** The method of claim 30 wherein said boot is worn both during the day and at night.
35. **(Cancelled).**
36. **(Original)** The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of protecting said foot during load bearing activities.